

BORAH ACQUITTED; SENATOR TESTIFIES IN OWN DEFENSE

Had Nothing to Do With
Land Purchases De-
clared to Be Fraudu-
lent.

BOISE, Idaho, Oct. 3.—Senator Borah tried on a charge of complicity in fraudulent land deals, was declared not guilty by a jury here yesterday. The case was sent to the jury late in the day after Prosecuting Attorney Rush had completed the opening argument, the defense deciding to submit the case without argument. The jury was out but a short time.

Senator Borah was the principal witness in his own behalf. He said he had been a personal friend of former Governor Steinberg for years prior to the governor's death, but never was employed as his attorney. He became general counsel for the Barber Lumber Company in 1903.

As to deeds going through his office, Senator Borah said that, although \$200,000 had been so recorded, he had nothing to do with any of the purchases, many of which were made long before he became attorney for the company. No controversy arising over the deeds, nothing in regard to them was ever referred to him.

In answer to the inquiry as to why the lands had been taken in the names of Rand, Long, and others, brought forward by the Government as "dummy" trustees, Senator Borah said if it became known a corporation was in the field the price of lands would have been doubled.

"DUCHESS" DIES IN DIRE POVERTY

Husband Gambled Away
Patrimony and Jewels
Paid for His Funeral.

NEW YORK, Oct. 3.—The "Duchess of Brackenbury" is dead, and there is sincere mourning among the flat dwellers and lodgers in that block of Fourth street between Perry and West Eleventh streets. The body is in the morgue, and unless some one comes forward to pay for burial it will be taken to potter's field on Saturday, for those who were friends of the duchess in her later years have no money to spare for a last tribute to her.

The duchess repeated the story the aged woman told in explanation of her title, and though all did not believe it, they always called her duchess. She had come to America with her husband to travel, she explained. They remained in New York for many months. The husband lost large sums at faro and roulette. When every cent was gone, he swallowed cyanide of potassium. The widow had some jewels left. She pawned these to defray the burial expenses of her husband and then called to relatives in Germany to send money, but none came.

One day, many months ago, she appeared in West Fourth street and went to live in three little rooms in the flat-house at 20.

Her clothes showed the effect of long year. There was never anything to eat in her apartments when neighbors called. The "duchess" would visit a bakery and purchase a loaf of bread once a day. At the peanut stand of Antonio Tessa she would buy a bag of nuts every evening. Never did she fail to do this.

Neighbors found the aged woman lying on the floor, fully dressed. She had died of heart disease, the coroners' physician said. No letters or papers of any kind were found to establish her identity.

Four in Suicide Pact; Man in Hospital Talks

Parents of Young Remi Died, Violinist Sought
Death, But Philosopher Broke Vow—Crush-
ed in Spirit, All Wanted Relief.

NEW YORK, Oct. 3.—When Maurice and Anna Remi committed suicide a week ago through grief over the death of their son, they left a note saying that they had made a compact to die. Now it has become known that two other men had vowed with the aged couple to end their lives at the same time. One of these tried his best to follow the Remis and is now in Bellevue recovering from the gas he breathed at a little lodging house in Chatham square. The fourth man lost heart at the last and broke his oath.

The would-be suicide who revealed the extraordinary bargains of death, is the "Baron" De Gay, who is said to have been really a member of the French aristocracy before he expatriated himself for love of an American girl ten years ago.

He was a musician of talent, and thus, some years ago, he became acquainted with the Remis, who were then educating their son, Victor, for a violinist's career.

The fourth member of the little circle, whose name De Gay will not reveal, had been a professor of philosophy in Germany. They spent nearly every evening together in the Remi home, at 1063 Boston road, listening to the boy's improvisations on his violin and planning great futures for him and for themselves.

Violinist Loses Right Hand.

Then De Gay was called to Kansas City to become a teacher in a conservatory there. About the time that the death of Victor Remi broke his parents' hearts De Gay lost his right hand while saving one of his girl pupils from the explosion of a fireworks bomb.

He returned to New York, useless as a teacher and discouraged with life, to find the Remis disconsolate and wishing for death to quickly reunite them with the idolized boy who had died.

The professor of philosophy had lost his position. He was penniless and equally discouraged. The four began to discuss among themselves how welcome death would be.

Hopes to Find Greater Misery.

De Gay, though still having an income from his father's estate in France, went to live in the cheap Columbia lodging house, at 7 Bowery, hoping, in that neighborhood of poverty and hopelessness to find such misery as would content him by contrast with his own lot.

He failed in the quest, for he says that two weeks ago he joined the Remis and the teacher again and eagerly agreed when the husband and wife suggested that the four take their lives together.

The pact was made and signed forthwith. It was understood that Mr. and Mrs. Remi should kill themselves together first. Then the professor was to follow as soon as he should be certain that the Remis had kept their word. Finally, De Gay would consummate the covenant with his own death. Gas was to be used by all four; all were to die in their own rooms, and De Gay—the last to go—was to have joined the others "across the river" by Sunday last.

How the Remis kept their promise is known. They died together, lying side by side, with the note explaining their pathetic act lying on a nearby table, and lockets inclosing their dead boy's picture upon their hearts.

Learns Professor Fleed.

De Gay learned that they had not broken faith when he read the next day's papers. With a copy of the death compact in his hand, he hurried to the lodging house of the professor, who, according to the agreement, was to be the next to die. He found that the man had fled. All last week De Gay searched for him. When he found that the other was making desperate efforts to elude him and escape the self-imposed death sentence, he returned to his lodging

house, and deliberately prepared to kill himself.

Saturday night De Gay bought a length of gas hose, smuggled it into his room, wrote letters of farewell to his relatives in France and to the American girl whom he had never been able to win for his wife, and then stuffing all the cracks with waste, turned on the gas, and lay down to die, as had Mr. and Mrs. Remi before him.

But the hotel clerk, attracted by the smell of gas, hurried to the bedroom at daylight, broke in the door, and dragged out De Gay, unconscious, but still alive.

He was taken to Bellevue, where it took a whole day to revive him. Yesterday he confessed his part in the strange covenant. He cursed the man who had failed to keep his vow and declared that he wished he had been allowed to follow Mr. and Mrs. Remi to their son.

PROF. COHEN ADDED TO G. W. U. FACULTY

Another addition was made today to the faculty of the George Washington University in the person of Louis Cohen, formerly of Columbia University, who has been appointed assistant professor of mathematics. Prof. Cohen formerly was associated with Prof. Pupin, who has become internationally famous through his discoveries in long-distance telephony. For some time past, however, Prof. Cohen had been engaged on the Carnegie Foundation in mathematical physics.

Students of the college of engineering of the university are celebrating today the opening of the new engineering laboratory.

SELL HOUSE AT AUCTION.

Thomas J. Owen & Son, auctioneers, sold yesterday afternoon at public sale the two-story brick dwelling, 1915 Second street northwest, to Miss Anna Brandes for \$2,400.

The sale was made for Percy H. Russell and Thomas H. Pares, trustees, and the terms provided for payment of all in excess of a deed of trust for \$2,500. The location is known as an addition to LeDroit Park.

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COST SKATER FIVE TO HANG ON CAR

Juvenile Court Determined
to Put End to Dan-
gerous Practice.

No more shall the gladsome small boy on skates grab the guard rail of a passing street car and skate merrily along his way, propelled, as it were, by electric power. This favorite diversion, according to the police department record, forced by the juvenile court, is to be forever set at naught. At least such is the opinion of one, Ashland Leprux, an adventurous youth, who was fined \$5 yesterday afternoon by Judge Callan for this offense.

The evidence went to show that Leprux was at the head of a merry band ofurchins, who usually took possession of each side of a Seventh street car, the formidable skating brigade showing no inclination to desist when asked to do so. Leprux, created sufficient disturbance to justify a charge of disorderly conduct against him.

In passing sentences, the court took occasion to reprimand the youthful victor in severe terms, stating that it would be the practice of the juvenile court to break up this habit which has become prevalent of late. The authorities as well as street car companies have decided objections to the practice as a serious accident is liable to occur should a boy slip and fall beneath the wheels.

All policemen have been ordered to watch out for this class of skaters and abate the nuisance at the beginning of the skating season.

AUTO STRIKES WAGON; NEGRO'S MULE KILLED

Edwin G. Fortner, president of the Portner Brewing Company of Alexandria, Va., narrowly averted a serious accident yesterday when his auto collided with a brick wagon on the Highway bridge. The machine was badly damaged, a mule was killed, and the road blocked an hour.

When the colored driver recovered from his fall from the wagon as a result of the collision, he began throwing rocks at Mr. Fortner. The latter, however, braved the shower of stones and captured the negro. A mob of fifty colored men appeared on the scene, and it was only after a heated argument that Mr. Fortner succeeded in getting out of his difficulty without injury.

TAILLESS COMETS SEEN IN SMOKE MAN'S DREAM: SCIENCE PUNCTURES IT

When the smoke law was put into effect, some time ago, and a corps of inspectors was added to the rolls of the District, there was no indication that a study of the question would lead to astronomical deductions. It has, though, and strange things have been reported by the energetic corps.

Yesterday, the story runs, one of the smoke brigade was on the job. He had watched the Riggs House tower in vain, and had every now and then turned his eye toward the plant of the Potomac Electric Power Company, but somehow business was slow.

Just about 6:30 o'clock, his eye caught something in the sky. Yes, it was—No, it wasn't. But it might be, after all. The smoke sleuth looked long and earnestly at the thing, which began to grow brighter and brighter. It was in the north sky, and could easily have been one of the bright particular stars of the season, but as the sleuth looked, it began to grow longer and longer. It grew and it grew and it grew, until it resolved itself into something like a comet, only it didn't have a tail.

The sooty Sherlock took out his pad and pencil—merely through habit. He checked off the minute, then the half-minute, repeated this performance and grew so interested marking time on the phenomenon that he could just see somebody getting a nice, fat fine for violating the law. It suddenly occurred to him, however, that the Police Court judges were not in the dream book, and

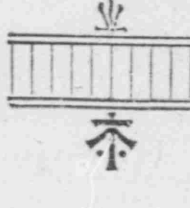
couldn't be expected to say "fines" to a tailless comet. So he scratched off the time charged up against the comet and penned a note to The Times. Here's the very note, and this is what he wrote:

"City Editor:
"Please ask Observatory people if they noticed a very brilliant star in the north sky at 6:30 this eve, which elongated like a comet (without tail) and disappeared in half minute."
"The Observatory people were asked.
"Nothing doing," said they.

NEW YEAR BEGINS AT GEORGETOWN LAW

The Georgetown University law school was opened last night for its 115th term. Addresses were made by the Rev. D. H. Buel, S. J., president of the university; Hon. Harry M. Claiborne, dean of the faculty; the Rev. Father Conway, S. J., vice president of the university; Michael J. Colbert, lecturer, and D. W. Baker, professor.

Justice Claiborne, who presided, made a number of important announcements, chief of which from the students' standpoint, was the determination of the faculty to not permit smoking during recitation hours.



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The Times maintains an Educational Information Bureau in charge of a man equipped by experience and study to give intelligent information to all inquiries.

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